



## Gregory Clifton Ritchie

August 27, 1953 - April 24, 2026

### Gregory' s Journey

Gregory Clifton Ritchie, lovingly known as “Fats” and “Milkman,” was born on August 27, 1953, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to the late Eugene and Mattie Ritchie. On Friday, April 24, 2026, God, in His infinite wisdom and compassion, sent His angels to 29401 Dutchman Lane in Easton, Maryland, to lead Greg to eternal rest at the age of 72. He was surrounded by his loving and devoted wife, Marcia Ritchie, and his daughter, Kelley Gibson.

Greg attended Beaver Elementary School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Overbrook High School with the Class of 1971. During his time there, Overbrook High School had one of the best basketball teams in the county, winning the championship in 1971 under Coach Paul Ward. Overbrook was also the alma mater of legendary basketball player Wilt Chamberlain.

Following in the proud tradition of his parents, Greg pursued higher education at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. His mother, Mattie, attended Cheney University, and his father, Eugene, attended Morgan State University. Greg attended Saint Augustine’s University in Raleigh, North Carolina, and later attended Chesapeake College in Wye Mills, Maryland. In 2003, he

participated in the Christmas Basketball Invitational under Tony Holmes.

Greg proudly served in the United States Navy from March 31, 1978, until his honorable discharge on September 30, 1983. He faithfully served as a Mass Management Specialist Third Class.

Greg dedicated 28 years of service to Cobbs Creek Recreation Center in Philadelphia, where he worked as a Recreation Leader, mentoring and inspiring countless young boys and girls in the community. Among the many youth whose lives he touched was basketball legend Kobe Bryant.

On September 11, 1978, Greg was united in holy matrimony to his beloved wife, Marcia Gibson Ritchie. Together they shared nearly 48 years of marriage and over 53 years of love, friendship, and devotion. From this union came their beautiful daughter, Jawann Kelley Gibson.

Greg was a faithful member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church, where he was baptized. He enjoyed playing basketball with a team called the Ripples and baseball with the Country Pride baseball team under the leadership of Eric Dashiell.

Greg enjoyed watching classic television shows and movies, including The A-Team, Sanford and Son, Hunter, Kojak, westerns, and films featuring James Brown. He also loved listening to jazz music, especially songs by Grover Washington Jr., as well as James Brown's energetic hit "Get Up."

Greg leaves to cherish his precious memories: his loving and devoted wife, Marcia Ritchie; his children, Jawann Kelley Gibson, Amir Ritchie, and Alaina Ritchie and his bonus son, Andre Dale Gibson, Sr. He also leaves his stepmother, Lillian Ritchie; two granddaughters, Na'Emah, to whom Greg was especially devoted, and Jahmira; one grandson, Amari; three bonus grandsons, Andre D. Gibson, Jr. (Troi), Jawann Gibson, and Aji Gibson; one bonus great-grandson, Ashton and two bonus great-granddaughters, Amani

and Ara Gibson.

He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Laverne Gibson; brothers-in-law, Robert (Janet) Gibson, James Gibson, Phillip (Dorsee) Gibson, and bonus brother-in-law, Harold Jenkins (Theresa); one niece, Chrissy Ritchie (Shag); three goddaughters, Raysura Brunson, Walida White, and Elsie Flamer; a special goddaughter, Keaira Handy; and a host of extended family members and friends who will forever cherish his memory.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 16. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Easton Church of God  
1009 North Washington St.  
Easton, MD 21601

## Funeral Service

MAY 16. 1:00 PM (ET)

Easton Church of God  
1009 North Washington St.  
Easton, MD 21601

## Live Stream Broadcast on Facebook

MAY 16. 1:00 PM.

Bennie Smith Funeral Home MD / VA

# Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

**Bennie Smith Funeral Home** - May 15 at 03:07 PM

VS

“ *VICTORIA SULLIVAN lit a candle in memory of Gregory Clifton Ritchie*



**VICTORIA SULLIVAN** - May 16 at 10:22 PM

DA

*Rest well FAT'S*

**Danny** - May 17 at 03:23 PM



“ *Gregg was a good man. My father, Vernon Travick took him under his wing, helped in various ways  
He was like famil*

**Marvin Travick** - May 16 at 02:35 PM

BT

“ *Nothing but fond memories of my great friend, Gregory. May faith, family, and friends bring comfort and peace to the Ritchie family.  
Bernard and Kenya Travick.*

**Bernard Travick** - May 15 at 02:03 PM

ST

“ Stephanie, Ibe, Lafinius and Tyrone purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Gregory Clifton Ritchie.



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**Stephanie, Ibe, Lafinius and Tyrone** - May 15 at 01:51 PM

ST

“ Stephanie, Ibe, Lafinius and Tyrone planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gregory Clifton Ritchie.

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**Stephanie, Ibe, Lafinius and Tyrone** - May 15 at 01:51 PM

TB

“ Theola L. Brown lit a candle in memory of Gregory Clifton Ritchie



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**Theola L. Brown** - May 14 at 05:37 PM

TB

*Rest in peace Sorry for the loss*

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**Theola L. Brown** - May 14 at 05:38 PM

EB

“ To a outstanding point guard and a better person. No one could press us when you were on the court. You still hold the Chesapeake College Men's Basketball individual record for the most assists in a single season. 1975-76. 227 assists.  
Love you and miss you, my friend  
Coach Baker

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**Edward Baker** - May 13 at 06:36 PM

TM

Four years my college teammate 50 plus years my close friend always looked up to you for who you were on and off the court will forever miss you "Ritchman" Love you man...

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**Toby Murray** - May 16 at 02:32 PM

VT

“ Veronica Travick

Forever in our hearts. Love you Greg. Rest in eternal peace. Fifty years of family love & friendship. 🙏❤️

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**Veronica Travick** - May 13 at 03:49 PM

DJ

“ "Rest in Peace Teammate #12"  
From,  
Chesapeake College Men's, Cheerleaders and Coaches Basketball Team.

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**David Johnson** - May 12 at 06:17 PM

TW

“ *Sorry For Your Loss* ”



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**Thomas Widgeon** - May 12 at 07:33 AM